

Westchester Land Trust have played a crucial role in protecting the beauty of our Hudson Valley; preserving biodiversity; and keeping our air, water, and public lands for future generations to enjoy.

Congratulations to the Hudson Highlands Land Trust and Westchester Land Trust for their dedication and leadership in conserving land for the people of New York, and may they continue to enjoy great success in the years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 31, 2012 I unfortunately missed three votes on account of travel delays due to weather at Reagan National Airport. I realize the importance of the votes I missed and therefore would like to state for the record how I would have voted on the three bills that were before the House of Representatives on Tuesday.

First, I would have supported S. 679, the Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act. S. 679 would seek to reduce the burdens and improve the efficiency of the appointment process for executive branch officials.

I would have supported H.R. 828, the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act. H.R. 828 would prohibit individuals who have "seriously delinquent" tax debts from being eligible for federal employment in the executive and legislative branch.

Lastly, I would have supported H.R. 3803, the DC Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. As a co-sponsor of H.R. 3803, I wholeheartedly support this measure that would prohibit abortion within the District after 20 weeks fetal age, unless the mother's life is endangered.

#### A TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF DOROTHY RUMSEY MILLER

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dorothy Rumsey Miller, a lifelong resident of Contra Costa County and native of Richmond, California, who passed away on July 8, 2012, at the age of 97 years old, surrounded by her devoted family after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Dorothy Rumsey Miller is survived by four children, including our distinguished colleague in the U.S. House of Representatives, her son Congressman GEORGE MILLER III of California's 7th Congressional District, his wife Cynthia and three exceptional daughters, Laura Miller of Martinez, Gretchen Miller of Martinez, and Kat Miller of Mexico; four wonderful grandchildren, George Miller IV (Wendy) of El Dorado Hills, Stephen Miller (Kathleen) of Lafayette, Michael D'Aloisio and Sam D'Aloisio

(Barbara) of San Francisco and ten beautiful great-grandchildren and two nephews.

Dorothy Rumsey Miller was the daughter of Sea Captain John Rumsey and Laura Rumsey. She graduated from Richmond High School and attended the University of the Pacific.

She was an accomplished and dedicated artist, who for more than fifty years, painted with her Point Richmond artist group where her passion and love of arts and the water were expressed on her canvases.

As an entrepreneur she successfully opened and managed Rumsey's restaurant, and went on to be one of the proprietors of Mama's Mercantile, both in Martinez.

Dorothy was an avid reader of all books, including eastern and western spirituality. In her earlier days she volunteered at Loaves and Fishes, and the Special Olympics. As one of the original Women of the Waterfront, a group which helped develop the Martinez Waterfront Park, Dorothy's daily walks brought her great peace and solace throughout her life.

Dorothy's greatest joys were her children, her family, and her friends. The Miller home was always a safe haven and a warm gathering place for the young and old seeking her sage advice and loving ways. Through her wonderful wit, eccentricity, humor, counsel, and spirit she was able to share her wisdom and laughter with her children.

Dorothy was predeceased by her sister Laura Carey and her distinguished husband, State Senator George Miller Jr. who passed away in 1969, while serving California's 7th State Senate District. Senator Miller was a highly respected legislator, recognized for his warmth, vigor, vision, courage and tremendous accomplishments as Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join my colleagues—Leader NANCY PELOSI; Representative MIKE THOMPSON; Representative DORIS MATSUI; Representative LYNN WOOLSEY; Representative BARBARA LEE; Representative JOHN GARAMENDI; Representative JERRY MCNERNEY; Representative JACKIE SPEIER; Representative PETE STARK; Representative MIKE HONDA; Representative ZOE LOFGREN; Representative SAM FARR; Representative DENNIS CARDOZA; Representative JIM COSTA; Representative LOIS CAPPES; Representative BRAD SHERMAN; Representative HOWARD BERMAN; Representative ADAM SCHIFF; Representative HENRY WAXMAN; Representative XAVIER BECERRA; Representative JUDY CHU; Representative KAREN BASS; Representative LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD; Representative MAXINE WATERS; Representative JANICE HAHN; Representative LAURA RICHARDSON; Representative GRACE NAPOLITANO; Representative LINDA SANCHEZ; Representative JOE BACA; Representative LORETTA SANCHEZ; Representative BOB FILNER; and Representative SUSAN DAVIS—in extending our deepest condolences to Dorothy's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, and friends, as well as her caregivers who were so loving and dedicated to her over an extended period of time.

We celebrate Dorothy's life and her accomplishments, and we are proud to honor her memory in the House of the People. Our nation has lost a beloved citizen who made her community stronger and our country better.

#### HONORING SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN WEST TENNESSEE

### HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize schools in the Fayette County, Henry County, Hollow Rock-Bruceton, McKenzie Special, Milan Special, South Carroll County Special, and Union City districts. Each of these districts in West Tennessee earned the state's highest status of "exemplary" for their efforts to raise student growth and close achievement gaps during the 2011–2012 school year.

The Tennessee Department of Education recently received a federal waiver to replace the No Child Left Behind accountability system with its own. Tennessee's new accountability system recognizes students across the state have different needs and a one-size-fits-all approach doesn't always work. It measures growth and improvement based on a school's starting point of proficiency, rather than expecting all schools to meet specific proficiency targets each year.

To reach exemplary status under Tennessee's new accountability system, schools in the Fayette County, Henry County, Hollow Rock-Bruceton, McKenzie Special, Milan Special, South Carroll County Special, and Union City districts met the majority of their achievement and gap closure targets and ensured students moved forward or held steady in target areas. Attaining exemplary status shows these schools are truly making improvements and helping students learn.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I commend the teachers and staff of these school districts for their hard work and commitment to improving public education for all students in Tennessee. Please join me in congratulating them on their success and achievements.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF KRISTINE J. MICHALSON TO THE CONSTITUENTS OF COLORADO'S FIFTH DISTRICT

### HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, it is with mixed feelings that I announce the departure of a valued member of my staff, Kristine J. Michalson. Words are not adequate to express how much she will be missed.

For the past four years, Kristine has professionally and enthusiastically served the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of Colorado as my Legislative Assistant and Press Secretary. She successfully handled her duties with a wealth of knowledge of the legislative and procedural processes. Her dedication and work ethic will be very difficult to replace.

Beginning her career on the Hill as my Staff Assistant and Deputy Press Secretary, she faithfully carried out her duties and was promoted to handle a variety of issue areas. She has particularly aided me in the area of Foreign Affairs, focusing on Israel and the Middle